

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 COPENH 00559 271058Z
ACTION EUR-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05 DODE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5805
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 826
USMISSION USNATO
MBFR VIENNA USDEL 15

S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 0559

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (SUBJECT ADDED)

EO 11652: XGDS DIMPTD
TAGS: PARM, FR, DA, UNGA
SUBJECT: FRENCH DISARMAMENT POLICY

REF: USNATO 0600

SUMMARY. THE DANES HAVE GIVEN US AN IMPRESSIONISTIC
ACCOUNT OF THE NEW FRENCH DISARMAMENT POLICY WHICH WAS
CONVEYED TO THEM TODAY BY THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR HERE.
AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF WHAT WE WERE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND
IS THAT THE FRENCH ARE PROPOSING AN EXPANSION OF THE PARTI-
CIPATION IN THE CCD AND, PERHAPS MBFR, TALKS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT LUNCH TODAY DANISH MFA DISARMAMENT CHIEF, AMBASSADOR NIELS
BOHL, TOLD POL COUNS THAT FRENCH AMBASSADOR PIERRE GORCE HAD
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JUST CALLED AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO OUTLINE THE NEW FRENCH
DISARMAMENT POLICY. AMB BOHL SAID THAT HE PRESUMED THAT THE FRENCH
ARE MAKING SIMILAR PRESENTATIONS IN WASHINGTON AND AT NATO BUT
THAT HE WASN'T SURE. BOHL CONSEQUENTLY ASKED THAT HIS ACCOUNT OF
THIS BE CLOSELY HELD AND THAT HE BE PROTECTED.

2. AMBASSADOR BOHL SPEAKS FLUENT NON-STOP ENGLISH BUT IS PERHAPS

TOO INTELLECTUALLY AGILE AND TENDED TO JUMP FROM SUBJECT TO SUBJECT. POL COUNS HAD SOME DIFFICULTY IN PIECING TOGETHER BOHL'S MORE OR LESS STREAM-OF-CONSCIOUSNESS CONVERSATION.

3. BOHL SAID THAT THE FRENCH AMB LET THE FORMER READ QUICKLY THE LONG TELEGRAM GORCE HAD RECEIVED FROM PARIS BUT THAT HE SAID HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE QUAI TO CONFINE HIS BRIEFING TO AN ORAL PRESENTATION. GORCE TOLD BOHL THAT THERE WILL BE A CABINET ANNOUNCEMENT IN PARIS THIS AFTERNOON GIVING AT LEAST THE BROAD OUTLINES OF THE NEW FRENCH DISARMAMENT POLICY. THE FRENCH WILL ALSO LAY OUT THEIR NEW THINKING TOMORROW AT THE UN SSOD PREPCOM IN NEW YORK. BOHL SAID THAT IT WAS NOT CLEAR HOW DETAILED EITHER OF THESE WOULD BE.

4. IN RECALLING SOME OF THE ELEMENTS OF AMB GORCE'S REMARKS, BOHL SAID THAT THE NEW POLICY WAS ELABORATED ON THREE LEVELS: GLOBAL; NON-NUCLEAR NATIONS; NUCLEAR NATIONS.

5. THE FRENCH ARE CALLING FOR A RESTRUCTURING OR MODIFICATION OF THE CCD TO INCLUDE PERHAPS ALL CSCE SIGNATORIES. BOHL SAID THAT THE FRENCH USED THE EXPRESSION "EUROPE FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE URALS" IN DISCUSSION THIS MODIFICATION. IT WAS NOT CLEAR FROM AMBASSADOR BOHL'S CONVERSATION WHETHER HE WAS MERELY SPECULATING OR WHETHER THE FRENCH PAPER IMPLIED THAT PARIS WOULD ALSO WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MBFR DISCUSSIONS IF THEY, TOO, WERE ENLARGED GEOGRAPHICALLY. IT WAS
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CLEAR THAT BOHL SAID THE FRENCH BELIEVED THAT EUROPEAN DISARMAMENT THINKING HAD TO OPEN UP FROM ITS PRESENT CONCENTRATION ON THE CENTRAL FRONT.

6. THE FRENCH ARE ALSO ANNOUNCING, WITH A GOOD MANY HEDGES, THAT THEY ARE GOING TO CEASE THEIR ACTIVITIES AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MANOR ARMS SUPPLIERS.

7. THE LAST PIECE THAT POL COUNS COULD COHERENTLY IDENTIFY IN BOHL'S CONVERSATION WAS THAT FRANCE WAS READY TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH OTHERS IN ATTEMPTING TO TRANSFER RESOURCES "SAVED" AS THE RESULT OF REDUCED ARMAMENTS PRODUCTIONS TO INCREASE AID TO THE THIRD WORLD.
DEAN

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